(ii) CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF MR. V. J. PATEL.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, I move—

'*that this House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the death of Mr. Vithalbhai Patel, the first elected President of the Legislative Assembly.*'

" Mr. President, Mr. Patel's name will live in the future as the first elected President of the Legislative Assembly. We have here in our midst the present President of the Legislative Assembly, who has himself paid his meed of tribute to his predecessor-in-office, and has told the public in what way his rulings have been most helpful to him in the Chair. Of course, Mr. Patel will also be remembered as a great fighter for the cause of Indian liberty and his last words even before he died were this very topic, and he wished the struggle for India's freedom will result in her being a free country in the near future. I am sure those words will be remembered by every Indian who is worthy of his country in order to achieve freedom for which Mr. Patel and his confreres have struggled for the last quarter of a century.

" Mr. Patel came of peasant origin in Gujarat. As is customary with the peasants of Gujarat, he had also their strength of mind and character, which made him a fighter for the cause of Indian liberty. In politics, he was a follower of the late Mr. Tilak, and was very much inclined to follow the policy laid down by Mr. Tilak for the achievement of Indian freedom. But when the dynamic personality of the Mahatmaji came into the Indian struggle, though he did not agree with the Mahatma's plans, he felt that Mahatma Gandhi was the one man who would lead the nation to its goal, and was prepared to follow the Mahatma's teachings in his struggle for Indian freedom. But, when he found that the first Non-Co-operation Movement did not achieve the result which was expected of it, he boldly threw in his lot with the late Pandit Motilal Nehru and the late Mr. C. R. Das in order to start the Swarajya Party, and his work as an ordinary Member in the first Legislative Assembly was of great help in this direction. But when the party themselves felt that Mr. Patel's work will be more useful to the nation if he occupied the Chair of the Assembly, he was willing to leave the arena of active politics for the Chair, and his work in the Chair is very well known to the public, as I have already referred to it. But, when the second Non-Co-operation Movement began, Mr. Patel naturally felt that his place was among his confreres of the Congress, and resigned the office, and was immediately sent to prison for some breach of law. His health was greatly impaired by such imprisonment, and eventually he had to go to Europe seeking medical aid. Even in his retirement in Europe, his thoughts were centred in the struggle for Indian freedom that was going on in the country. When he found that anti-Indian propaganda was being carried on in America, he in spite of his weak health went to the United States and tried to do what he could to put forward the view of the Indian nationalists to the American public, and I believe it has had its own effect. When he came back from America, his health broke down, and in

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spite of the medical aid given to him in the great medical centre of Vienna, he lost his life. I am sure his spirit and the last message he has given will live for ever and will impel us to struggle for the cause which was so dear to his heart."

* The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"In seconding this resolution, I should like to associate the Government of Madras with it and express our sorrow at the death of Mr. Patel, the first elected President of the Legislative Assembly."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is—

'*that this House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the death of Mr. Vithalbhai Patel, the first elected President of the Legislative Assembly*'."

The motion was carried, all Members standing.

IV.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Control of Cinematographs

Ban on the Cinematograph film displaying the funeral procession of Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta.

* 105 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Madras Government have banned the film of the funeral procession of the late Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta and, if so, for what reasons?

A.—This Government have not banned the film.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, are any restrictions placed in the matter of the exhibition of the film of the funeral procession of the late Mr. Sen Gupta, and if so, what are they?

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"The question does not arise. The Government have not banned the film, as stated in the answer."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether this film has been banned by the Government of India, or any other authority?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question does not arise."

Law and Order (General)

Alleged oppression of the Depressed Classes of Pallikondan village, Vellore taluk.

* 106 *Q.*—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have received any complaints that the caste Hindus are oppressing the depressed classes at Pallikondan village, Vellore taluk?

A.—No complaint appears to have been received.

Alleged unfriendly relations between the Nattars and the Adi-Dravidas in the Ramnad district.

* 107 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—